WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A portrait image processing method comprising the steps of:

extracting a portrait image from an original image including a person and a background;

compositing the extracted portrait image and a background image prepared in advance to create a composite image;

detecting a boundary of the person and the background from the original image;

judging whether or not the detected boundary is a true contour of the person for each part of the boundary; and

applying correction processing for concealing a boundary part, which is judged not to be a true contour of the person, to the boundary of the person and the background in the created composite image.

2. The portrait image processing method according to claim 1,

wherein said correction processing is image processing for overwriting another image on the boundary part which is judged not to be the true contour of the person.

3. The portrait image processing method according to claim 1,

wherein said correction processing is image processing for shifting the portrait image such that the boundary part, which is judged not to be the true contour of the person, is outside a frame of the composite image.

4. A portrait image processing apparatus comprising:

a portrait image extracting device which extracts a portrait image from an original image including a person and a background;

a background image recording device which stores a background image to be a background of a portrait image;

an image compositing device which composites the extracted portrait image and the background image read out from said background image recording device to create a composite image;

a boundary detecting device which detects a boundary of the person and the background from the original image;

a judging device which judges whether or not the detected boundary is a true contour of the person for each part of the boundary; and

an image correcting device which applies correction processing for concealing a boundary part, which is judged not to be a true contour of the person, to the boundary of the person and the background in the created composite image.

5. The portrait image processing apparatus according to claim 4,

wherein said image correcting device performs image processing for overwriting another image on the boundary part which is judged not to be the true contour of the person.

6. The portrait image processing apparatus according to claim 4,

wherein said image correcting device performs image processing for shifting the portrait image such that the boundary part, which is judged not to be the true contour of the person, is outside a frame of the composite image.